

Governor's 2nd Annual Public Health Conference

New Frontiers in Public Health

Roderick L. Bremby,
Secretary
Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Greetings



Gov. Kathleen Sebelius



"The trouble with the future, is that it ain't what it used to be".

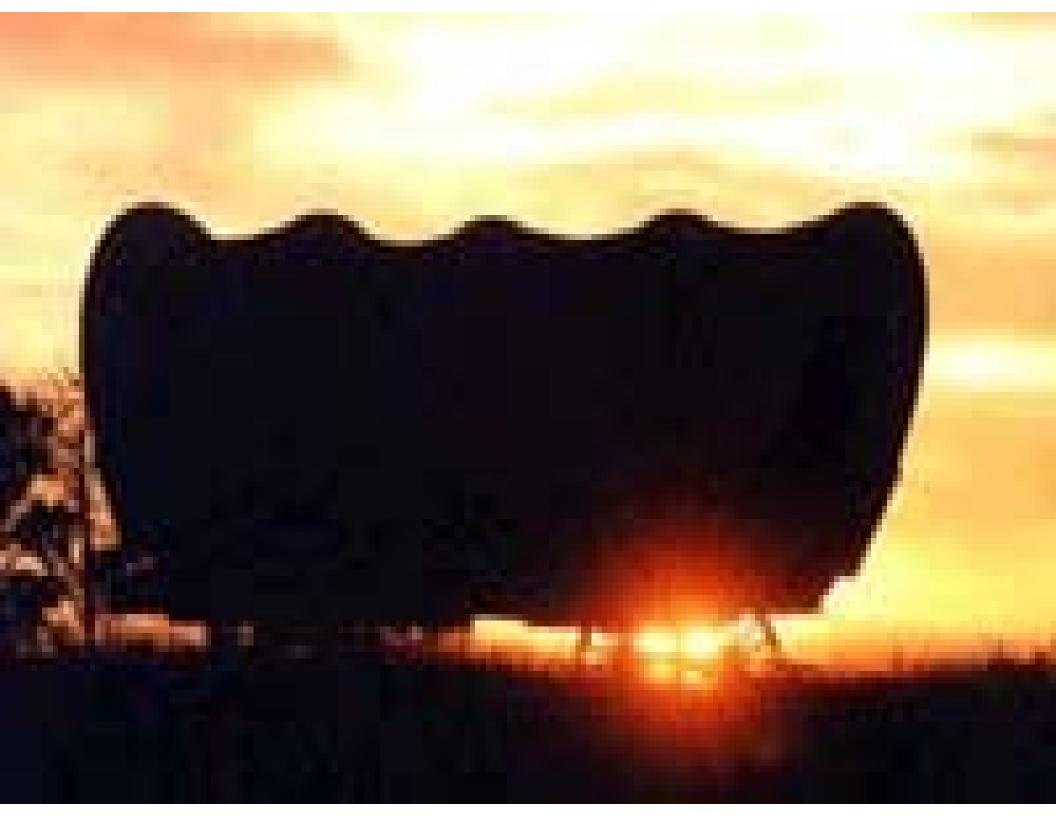
Will Rogers



Frontier –

the limit of knowledge or the most advanced achievement in a particular field

an outer limit in a field of endeavor, esp. one in which the opportunities for research and development have not been exploited



20th Century – U.S. life expectancy increased by 35 years

5 years attributed to advances in clinical medicine

30 years attributed to public health (i.e., improvements in sanitation, health education, the development of effective vaccines)

10 Achievements in Public Health

- Vaccination
- Healthier moms and babies
- Family planning
- Safer and healthier foods
- Fluoridation of drinking water

- Control of infectious diseases
- Decline in deaths from heart disease, and stroke
- Recognition of tobacco as a major health hazard
- Motor vehicle safety
- Safer workplaces

Major Public Health Threats: 2005 and Beyond

- Potential bio-chemrad threat
- Natural disaster response – assisting the injured and containing disease
- Infectious diseases pan flu, SARS, norovirus, mad cow
- Growing prevalence of cancer, heart disease, diabetes, asthma, and other chronic diseases across all age groups

- 60% of Americans overweight or obese
- 20% of Americans experience mental illness in a given year. More than 9% has a substance abuse problem
- Environmental threats
- Increasing public violence

Aging Population –

- 1900 1 in 25 Americans were 65 yrs or older; 3 million
- 2005 1 in 8 Americans were 65 yrs or older; 35 million
- 2030 projected 71 million Americans 65 yrs or older; 10 million 85 yrs or older

"We shall go to the moon, and do the other things, not because it's easy, but because it's hard. We sail on this new sea because there is new knowledge to be gained and new rights to be won, and they must be won and used for the progress of all people."

President John F. Kennedy "This New Ocean" - 9/62

W.I.G. – Wildly Important Goal

a goal that makes all the difference; failure to achieve this goal renders all other achievement inconsequential "Working together we can create a culture that actively promotes responsible behavior and the adoption of lifestyles conducive to good health. This is "prevention" in the broadest sense and necessary if we are to remain a humane and caring society."

Larry D. Jecha, M.D., M.P.H.
Former Director/Health Officer
Wichita-Sedgwick County Department of Health
1997







"No one will thank you for taking care of the present if you have neglected the future."

Joel Barker Futurist



